

of natural history subjects, has made arrangements to leave it to the Society after her death. The slides, which number about 45,000, have been seen by Andrew Halstead who confirmed that the Society would certainly benefit from such a bequest. We are most grateful to Mrs Foord for her generous and thoughtful action.

If I have omitted to thank or praise anybody, or inadvertently failed to mention any event I should have done, I would beg your indulgence. I would stress what a great honour and privilege it has been to have followed in the footsteps of the many famous and distinguished entomologists who have presided over the Society during the past 130 years. I hope that I may now move quickly to the final stage of my presidency, my main address, especially bearing in mind the constraints of time.

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## SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

***Empicoris baerunsprungi* (Dohrn) (Hem: Reduviidae), *Agrilus biguttatus* F. (Col: Buprestidae) and *Rhinocyllus conicus* Frölich (Col:Curculionidae) in Gloucestershire.** — On a brief visit to Toddington Manor (SP0333) on 12 June 2003, I found a rich invertebrate fauna associated with old parkland trees. On one large oak I beat a male *Empicoris baerunsprungi* from the shattered stump of a broken off lower bough. This appears to be a much favoured microhabitat for this delicate bug.

Two other large, moribund oaks were heavily infested with *Agrilus biguttatus*, with the characteristic emergence holes abundant. Both appear to be new county records (Keith Alexander, *pers. comm.*).

Other important captures included the RDB1 click beetle *Ampedus rufipennis* (Stephens)(Elateridae) on hogweed. Another scarce species which is well established in the area was the spider *Nigma walckenaeri* (Roewer) (Araneae: Dictynidae) which is otherwise largely restricted to the Home counties.

On the 5 November 2003, I visited Cattybrook Brick Pit, Almondsbury (ST5983) where I found 11 adult *Rhinocyllus conicus* wintering under the lifting bark of a small, recently dead oak tree growing on the open revegetating slopes of this large quarry. These appear to be the first records of this beetle in Gloucestershire. — JONTY DENTON, Kingsmead, Wield Road, Medstead, Hampshire, GU34 5NJ. JontyDenton@aol.com.

***Plectrocnemia geniculata* McLachlan (Trichoptera: Polycentropodidae) in Surrey.** — On 18 August 2003, I collected a single dead male caddis from a spider's web close to a stream crossing Strawberry Bottom, on Pirbright Ranges (SU9259). Using Macan (1973) it keyed out to *Plectrocnemia geniculata*. According to Wallace (1991), this species is common throughout most of Britain but he had no records for south-east England, adding prophetically that "he would be surprised if it was not there somewhere!" The caddis was taken close to a swift flowing stream shaded by *Phragmites*, surrounded by the most extensive areas of mire habitat in Surrey. I have since learned that there is a single male of this species in the NHM collection, collected at Ightham, Kent by D. E. Kimmins on 28 April 1963 (P. C. Barnard, *pers. comm.*). This record was not included in Wallace's review.—JONTY DENTON, Kingsmead, Wield Road, Medstead, Hampshire GU34 5NJ. E-mail: JontyDenton@aol.com.

## REFERENCES

- Macan, T. T. 1973. *A Key to the Adults of the British Trichoptera*. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association, No. 43.
- Wallace, I. D. 1991. *A Review of the Trichoptera of Great Britain*. NCC, Peterborough.